

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 INRE-00 L-03 /054 W

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O R 180240Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4543

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 8296

GENEVA FOR PHELAN FROM SMITH AND GAREL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, AS, US

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN TQ ACTIONS - TEXTILES

REF: WILLIAMS/SMITH TELECON 6-18-75

1. WHILE EC IS DOUBTLESS CORRECT IN INTERPRETING AUSTRALIAN NOTE AS REFUSAL TO CONSULT UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF MFA, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE USG SHOULD NOT RPT NOT RUSH INTO SUPPORTING ANY EC MOVE TO BRING GOA BEFORE TSB. THIS ISSUE IS A COMPLEX ONE, INVOLVING OUTSIDE FACTORS AS WELL, AND WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD FULLY EXAMINE THE ISSUE WITHIN USG BEFORE PRECIPITOUSLY PUSHING TSB ACTION. ALTHOUGH SUCH A MOVE MAY WELL BE THE OUTCOME OF AN INTENSIVE INTERNAL USG REVIEW OF THE ISSUE.

2. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT, INASMUCH AS PHELAN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON BY NEXT FRIDAY (THE 27TH), THE EC PROPOSAL SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BY PHELAN DIRECTLY WITH DEP ASSISTANT SEC KATZ AS WELL AS THE FULL CITA. WE SEE NO NEED TO ACT ON EC PROPOSAL BEFORE PHELAN HAS CHANCE TO TALK PERSONALLY WITH KATZ AND CITA (AS WELL AS, PREFERABLY, STR) ON MATTER, AND ANOTHER TEN DAYS

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IS NOT GOING TO CHANGE THE SITUATION.

3. AS THE DEPARTMENT INDICATED EARLIER, THE USG SHOULD NOT RPT NOT FEEL OBLIGED TO GET OUT IN FRONT ON THIS ISSUE, INASMUCH AS USG IS LEAST EFFECTED OF THE THREE TRADING ENTITIES WHICH PROTESTED GOA TQ TEXTILE ACTIONS. IF ANYTHING, JAPAN SHOULD BE TAKING THE LEAD AND HERETOFORE JAPAN HAS SEEMED RATHER RELUCTANT TO PRESS TOO HARD ON GOA FOR OTHER, NON-TEXTILE REASONS. AT A MINIMUM, WE OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT THE JAPANESE INTEND TO DO WITH NEGATIVE GOA RESPONSE BEFORE JUMPING AHEAD ANY FURTHER.

4. FINALLY, IT IS IRONICAL THAT EC IS PRESSING GOA SO HARD ON THIS WHEN EC ITSELF HAS SO LAMENTABLE A RECORD ON MFA LIBERALIZATION.

5. IN SUM, WE BELIEVE USG SHOULD WAIT ON EC PROPOSAL UNTIL THE ENTIRE ISSUE, INCLUDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF OUR SUPPORTING AN EC INITIATIVE AGAINST ANOTHER DEVELOPED TEXTILE IMPORTER, IS FULLY WEIGHED IN WASHINGTON BY ALL HANDS CONCERNED.
PURNELL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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